

## HOUSE RESOLUTION 209

By Powers

A RESOLUTION to recognize the second annual Light the Night for Kate Childhood Cancer Festival in Jacksboro.

WHEREAS, it is now the first anniversary of the untimely death of young Katelyn Ann-May Norman of the City of Jacksboro in Campbell County, who succumbed to osteosarcoma, an aggressive form of bone cancer to which children are especially susceptible; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly is pleased to recognize the community event, Light the Night for Kate Childhood Cancer Festival, which Jacksboro and Campbell County have chosen to conduct for a second year to memorialize Ms. Norman and honor her noble desire to raise awareness of the perils of osteosarcoma and the quest to find a cure; and

WHEREAS, during this time in 2013, family, friends, school personnel, public officials, and a host of supporters rallied to provide a spectacular prom opportunity for Katelyn Norman, whose life veered off the path of normalcy when she received her cancer diagnosis during the eighth grade; and

WHEREAS, on that prom day, Katelyn was forced to return to East Tennessee Children's Hospital for aid, so plans shifted and family, many friends, and fellow prom-goers gathered at the hospital to provide their sick and faltering friend with an incredible celebratory experience that gave her great delight; and

WHEREAS, even as the makeshift prom carried on at the hospital, a planned candlelight vigil took place along Campbell County highways and along the streets surrounding the Knoxville hospital; throngs of people joined in, each casting their single flame into the radiant aura of light that shone for Katelyn that night; and

WHEREAS, three days later, on March 29<sup>th</sup>, Katelyn Norman slipped the bounds of this earthly life and entered into eternal rest; and

WHEREAS, those who knew, loved, and supported her are not resting though, for this community has an unquenchable thirst to carry on Katelyn's desire to make people aware of childhood cancer and to diligently seek a cure, so that others may be spared premature death; and

WHEREAS, though no longer physically present with us, on the evening of March 26, 2014, Katelyn's spirit was palpable in her community as they celebrated her life and continued her legacy of pursuing a cure during the second annual Light the Night for Kate Childhood Cancer Festival. In keeping with her love of fun and joy, the festival featured face-painting, a musical showcase, Rolling Video Games of Knoxville, inflatables, and more; and

WHEREAS, last year's first event, the candlelight vigil, occurred as Katelyn spent her last few days and hours in the hospital, and this year's second event continues the fulfillment of her dream of creating the Foundation of Katelyn Ann-May Norman Childhood Cancer Awareness; and

WHEREAS, Katelyn Norman had a mission to research the disease, advocate awareness, and support families impacted by it; God's plan for her life did not include staying here to do that work, but this legislative body is exceedingly proud to recognize and acknowledge the efforts of her community in continuing that mission; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize the second annual Light the Night for Kate Childhood Cancer Festival on March 26, 2014, thank the City of Jacksboro and Campbell County for their enthusiastic support of this event, honor the foundation that bears Katelyn Norman's name, and extend our best wishes for a highly successful festival and success in all future endeavors that the foundation undertakes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.